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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : National Phase Entry of PCT/EP2004/000134

Applicant : RAPPOLD-HOERBRAND et al

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Examiner :

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Confirmation No. :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments before calculation of the filing fee and examination of the merits.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings being on page 7 of this paper.

Please add the Abstract which is on page 10 of this paper as the last page of the application.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.